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ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for automated food court operation utilizing an order station where a customer uses a touch screen to order menu items from one or more of the restaurants, a payment station where the customer uses a touch screen to pay for the order using forms of payment selected by the customer, a restaurant touch screen in each restaurant which notifies restaurant personnel of menu items ordered from the restaurant and allows restaurant personnel to acknowledge readiness of the items for delivery, a delivery screen in the dining area which notifies customers of items ready for delivery, and a central computer linking all of the components and providing sales and accounting information for distribution of revenue to the restaurants.